

State Senator

Dear Neighbor,

This year the General Assembly created a new legislative committee dealing exclusively with veterans and military issues – the Select Committee on Veterans Affairs. As Ranking Senator on the Committee I, along with my legislative colleagues, put together an extensive package of bills that lends assistance to both our veterans and current servicemen and women who have proudly served our country.

The Committee created a toll-free phone number that citizens could call to see if they or their family members may be eligible for certain benefits. The hotline number is 1-800-447-0961 and is run by the Veterans Department's Office of Advocacy and Assistance.

Especially during this time of war in Iraq we need to properly recognize our current troops for their bravery and patriotism. We established a Military Family Relief Fund that provides grants to immediate relatives of active duty armed forces members to pay for essential goods and services including home repairs, transportation, clothing, and school supplies.

In addition, as a token of respect, a \$50 per month bonus, up to a maximum of \$500, is provided to National Guard members called to active service on or after 9-11-01 and who serve for at least 90 consecutive days. Plus, a new ribbon and medal is currently being designed that will be awarded to every Connecticut veteran who served in a time of war, which should be about 275,000 vets.

Sincerely,



Len Fasano



Len Fasano

IMPROVEMENTS TO NORTH HAVEN “Honoring Our State’s Veterans”



AMERICANISM AWARD:

Recently, I was given the Americanism Award, the American Legion's highest honor at the service order's 87th annual convention. It was a true honor to be recognized by the world's largest veteran's organization and to join the list of distinguished honorees.

